

## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /011 R

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DRAFTED BY: P:ARAPHEL

APPROVED BY P:ARAPHEL

S/S: MR LUERS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 270405

EXDIS TOPOL 36

FOR UNDER SECRETARY SISCO

FOL REPEAT OF CAIRO 9978 TO SECSTATE DEC 9

QTE:

S E C R E T CAIRO 9978

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR EG

SUBJ: STUDENT AND WORKERS UNREST OVER GOE  
POLICIES

REF: CAIRO 9675

1. DURING MEETING WITH PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER ASHRAF MARWAN  
TODAY, AMBASSADOR ALLUDED TO PRESIDENT'S REMARKS OF A FEW DAYS  
AGO ABOUT TROUBLE THAT "COMMUNIST" ACTIVITIES AMONG STUDENTS  
AND LABORERS IN PARTICULAR ARE CURRENTLY CAUSING. AMBASSADOR  
ASKED IF MARWAN COULD ELABORATE. MARWAN ECHOED THE CHARGE  
THA "COMMUNISTS" ARE CURRENTLY ACTIVE AMONG STUDENTS AND  
LABORERS. THEY ARE ALLEDGEDLY HAMMERING ON SEVERAL THEMES:

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TOWARD THE USG. ON THE CONTRARY, BY ALIENATING USSR, IT HAS

LOST ADVANTAGES WHICH IT HAD EARLIER ENJOYED. SINCE JANUARY  
DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT, THERE HAS BEEN NO FURTHER ISRAELI  
WITHDRAWAL FROM SINAI. ON CONTRARY, SITUATION HAS BECOME FROZEN.  
NOR HAS USG PROVIDED  
ANY ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE. USG CONTINUES BE TOTALLY PARTISAN TO  
ISRAEL AND AGAINST PALESTINIAN RIGHTS. RECENT RETRACTION OF  
SEEMINGLY PRO-PALESTINIAN STATEMENTS BY AMERICAN LEADERS  
ATTESTS TO CONTINUED BIAS USG POLICY. PRESIDENT FORD'S PUBLIC  
CENSURE OF GENERAL BROWN FOR LATTER'S REMARKS ARE ALLEGEDLY  
CITED AS FURTHER EVIDENCE OF THIS. MOREOVER, AS RESULT  
OF SADAT'S POLICY SHIFT, NO NEW MILITARY OR ECONOMIC  
ASSISTANCE HAS BEEN PROVIDED BY SOVIETS. EGYPTIAN MILITARY  
HAS BEEN BADLY WEAKENED, WHILE ISRAELI MILITARY CONTINUES TO BE  
MASSIVELY STRENGTHENED BY US. ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL CAN ONLY  
BE ACHIEVED BY FULL COOPERATION WITH SOVIETS AND THROUGH MEDIUM  
OF GENEVA CONFERENCE.

3. SECOND, BASIC COMMODITY SHORTAGES AND INFLATION ARE  
BEING SEIZED UPON THE PRESIDENT AND HEGAZY CABINET ARE  
BEING CRITICIZED FOR FAILURE TO CONTROL INFLATION. UNDERLYING  
THEME OF LEFTIST CHARGES, ACCORDING TO MARWAN, IS THAT USG  
COULD, IF IT WISHED, PROVIDE BASIC ESSENTIALS TO PREVENT SUCH  
COMMODITY SHORTAGES AND INFLATION, BUT IS DELIVERATELY NOT  
DOING SO. NIXON'S "PROMISES" WERE NEVER MEANT TO BE HONORED.  
IN ADDITION, STUDENTS ARE CRITICIZING CURRENT SHORTAGES OF TEXT-  
BOOKS, TEXTS, NOTEBOOKS AND STUDENT ACCESSORIES.

4. THIRD, STUDENTS AND WORKERS ARE CHARGING  
WIDESPREAD CORRUPTION IN GOVERNMENT. THE RICH ARE GETTING  
RICHER AND THE POOR, POORER. THIS CRITICISM HAS BEEN  
BROUGHT TO THE PRESIDENT'S ATTENTION, MARWAN OBSERVED. THE  
PRESIDENT HAD ASKED FOR EVIDENCE. HE HAD REFUSED TO ACT ON THE  
BASIS OF RUMORS. MARWAN CONCEDED CORRUPTION IS TAKING  
PLACE, BUT CLAIMED NO HARD EVIDENCE HAS THUS FAR BEEN  
ADDUCED TO INCRIMINATE SPECIFIC INDIVIDUALS. A NUMBER OF  
FOREIGN COMPANIES, INCLUDING AMERICAN, HAD BEEN ASKED ABOUT  
KICKBACK DEMANDS, BUT ALL HAD REFUSED TO REPLY EVEN THOUGH  
THIS MIGHT MEAN LOSS OF CONTRACT.

5. FOURTH, STUDENTS AND LABORERS ARE CRITICISING RECENT  
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SUGGESTION THAT ASU NO LONGER BE SINGLE POLITICAL PARTY AND  
THAT DUAL OR MULTI PARTY SYSTEM BE ESTABLISHED. THIS IDEA  
HAS BEEN PROPOSED BY THE AMIN BROTHERS. STUDENTS AND LABORERS ARE  
ALLEGEDLY CHARGING THAT AMINS ARE IN USG PAY AND THAT THAT THERE  
RECOMMENDATIONS IS BEING MADE AT BEHEST OF US GOVT.  
A "WESTERN AMBASSADOR"-- NOT US AMBASSADOR--IS REPORTEDLY  
BEING QUOTED AS HAVING PUBLICLY SUPPORTED MULTIPLE PARTY SYSTEM  
IN PLACE ASU.

6. MARWAN INDICAED GOE IS WATCHING " COMMUNIST" ACTIVITIES  
AMONG STUDENTS AND LABORERS AND WILL TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION  
IN DUE COURSE.

7. COMMENT: ABOVE IS MARWAN'S VERSION OF CAUSES  
OF CURRENT LEFTIST-INSPIRED STUDENT AND LABORERS' UNREST.  
WHILE IT IS CLEARLY TAILORED FOR OUR EARS, OTHER REPORTS  
WE HAVE SUGGEST THE SEVERAL THEMES CITED BY HIM ARE CORRECT,  
AT LEAST IN THRUST IF NOT ALWAYS IN DETAIL. WITH BREZHNEV COMING  
IN MID-JANUARY, LEFTISTS ARE CLEARLY ENCOURAGED TO BELIEVE  
THEY CAN ACT WITH IMPUNITY AND USG IS PREDICTABLE WHIPPING  
BOY. MARWAN MADE HIS COMMENT ABOUT CHARGES OF CORRUPTION  
WITHOUT BATTING AN EYELASH, ALTHOUGH HE IS SURELY AWARE THAT HE,  
PERSONALLY, IS BEING WIDELY CHARGED AMONG EGYPTIAN PUBLIC WITH  
BEING ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL CULPRITS.  
EILTS UNQTE INGERSOLL

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